## IN9 Double Integrals

A double integral is of the form:


$$
\iint_{R} f(x, y) d A=\iint_{R} f(x, y) d x d y=\iint_{R} f(x, y) d y d x
$$

where

- $z=f(x, y)$ is a continuous function on the region $R$;
- $R$ is a region of integration in the $x-y$ plane;
- $d A$ is an infinitesimal element of area in $R$ and $d A=d x d y=$ $d y d x$.

If $f(x, y) \geq 0$ then the double integral is equal to the volume below the surface $f(x, y)$ and above the region $R$.


## Evaluation

A double integral may be evaluated in two ways:

- Integrating first with respect to $x$, keeping $y$ constant.

If $a \leq x \leq b$ and $c \leq y \leq d$, the integral becomes $\iint_{R} f(x, y) d A=$ $\int_{c}^{d}\left[\int_{a}^{b} f(x, y) d x\right] d y$.
The "inner" integral is the integral with respect to $x$ and the "outer" integral is the integral with respect to $y$.

- Integrating first with respect to $y$, keeping $x$ constant, with $a \leq$ $y \leq b$ and $c \leq x \leq d$.
The integral becomes $\iint_{R} f(x, y) d A=\int_{c}^{d}\left[\int_{a}^{b} f(x, y) d y\right] d x$.
The "inner" integral is the integral with respect to $y$ and the "outer" integral is the integral with respect to $x$.

In practice integrating first with respect to $x$ (or $y$ ) may be easier than integrating first with $y$ (or $x$ ).

To evaluate a double integral it is helpful to:

1. Sketch the region of integration;
2. Determine the limits of integration;
3. Work out the inner integral, then
4. Evaluate the outer integral.

## Double Integrals Over a Rectangular Region

The easiest case is when the region is a rectangle.

## Example 1

Evaluate $\iint_{R}\left(3 x^{2}-2 x y\right) d x d y$ where $R$ is the rectangle with vertices $(2,1),(2,3),(4,1),(4,3)$.

## Solution:

The region is shown below.


The limits of integration for the inner integral are $x=2$ to $x=4$.
The limits of integration for the outer integral are $y=1$ to $y=3$.
Thus, the integral becomes: $\int_{1}^{3}\left[\int_{2}^{4}\left(3 x^{2}-2 x y\right) d x\right] d y$
First, we work out the inner integral, integrating with respect to $x$ while treating $y$ as a constant.

Then integrate with respect to $y$ and evaluate.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\int_{1}^{3}\left[\int_{2}^{4}\left(3 x^{2}-2 x y\right) d x\right] d y & =\int_{1}^{3}\left[\left(\frac{3 x^{3}}{3}-\frac{2 x^{2} y}{2}\right)_{2}^{4}\right] d y \\
& =\int_{1}^{3}\left[\left(x^{3}-x^{2} y\right)_{2}^{4}\right] d y \\
& =\int_{1}^{3}\left[\left(4^{3}-4^{2} y\right)-\left(2^{3}-2^{2} y\right)\right] d y \\
& =\int_{1}^{3}[(64-16 y)-(8-4 y)] d y \\
& =\int_{1}^{3}[56-12 y] d y \\
& =\left[56 y-\frac{12 y^{2}}{2}\right]_{1}^{3} \\
& =\left[56 y-6 y^{2}\right]_{1}^{3} \\
& =\left(56(3)-6(3)^{2}\right)-\left(56(1)-6(1)^{2}\right) \\
& =168-54-56+6 \\
& =64
\end{aligned}
$$

In this example you could reverse the order of integration and still obtain the same answer.

Example 2: Reversing the Order of Integration in Example 1

## Solution:

In this case, the integral becomes: $\int_{2}^{4}\left[\int_{1}^{3}\left(3 x^{2}-2 x y\right) d y\right] d x$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\int_{2}^{4}\left[\int_{1}^{3}\left(3 x^{2}-2 x y\right) d y\right] d x & =\int_{2}^{4}\left[\left(3 x^{2} y-2 x \frac{y^{2}}{2}\right)_{1}^{3}\right] d x \\
& =\int_{2}^{4}\left[\left(3 x^{2} y-x y^{2}\right)_{1}^{3}\right] d x \\
& =\int_{2}^{4}\left[\left(3 x^{2}(3)-x(3)^{2}\right)-\left(3 x^{2}(1)-x(1)^{2}\right)\right] d x \\
& =\int_{2}^{4}\left[\left(9 x^{2}-9 x\right)-\left(3 x^{2}-x\right)\right] d x \\
& =\int_{2}^{4}\left[6 x^{2}-8 x\right] d x \\
& =\left[\frac{6 x^{3}}{3}-\frac{8 x^{2}}{2}\right]_{2}^{4} \\
& =\left[2 x^{3}-4 x^{2}\right]_{2}^{4} \\
& =\left(2(4)^{3}-4(4)^{2}\right)-\left(2(2)^{3}-4(2)^{2}\right) \\
& =128-64-16+16 \\
& =64
\end{aligned}
$$

As expected the same answer is obtained regardless of the order of integration (provided that the function is continuous over the region of integration).

## Exercise 1

(a) Evaluate $\iint_{R}(4 x y) d x d y$ where $R$ is the rectangle with vertices
$(0,1),(0,3),(3,1),(3,3)$.
(b) Evaluate $\iint_{R}\left(6 e^{x}+e^{y}\right) d y d x$ where $R$ is the region bounded by the
lines $x=0, x=4, y=1, y=2$.
(c) Evaluate $\int_{0}^{3} \int_{1}^{4}(\sin \pi x+\cos \pi y) d y d x$
(d) Find $\int_{0}^{b} \int_{0}^{a}(5) d x d y$. What is the physical significance of this result?

## Answers

a. 72
b. $6 e^{4}+4 e^{2}-4 e-6$
c. $6 / \pi$
d. $5 a b$. This is the volume of a cuboid of height 5 , length $a$ and width $b$.

## Double Integrals Over a General Region

For a general region of integration the limits of integration are not necessarily constants. Frequently they are functions. It is important to be able to sketch the region to identify the limits of integration.

## Example 3

Evaluate $\iint_{R}(10 x-4 y+5) d x d y$ where $R$ is the region bounded by the curve $y=\sqrt{x}$ and the $x$-axis, from $x=0$ to $x=1$.


## Solution:

Firstly, sketch the region of integration on the $x, y$ plane.


Secondly, find the limits of integration.
The "inner" integration is with respect to $x$, so we draw an arrow across the region of integration, parallel to the $x$-axis (keeping $y$ constant) from left to right.

The left boundary is $x=y^{2}$ (making $x$ the subject of the equation $y=\sqrt{x}$ ).

The right boundary is $x=1$.
These are the limits of integration for $x$.
The outer integration is with respect to $y$. The limits of integration are simply the lower and upper limits of $y$ for the region of integration.

Lower limit: $y=0$
Upper limit: $y=1$
Therefore the integral becomes, $\int_{0}^{1}\left[\int_{x=y^{2}}^{1}(10 x-4 y+5) d x\right] d y$
Thirdly, integrate with respect to $x$ and then with respect to $y$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\int_{0}^{1}\left[\int_{x=y^{2}}^{1}(10 x-4 y+5) d x\right] d y & =\int_{0}^{1}\left[\left(5 x^{2}-4 y x+5 x\right)_{x=y^{2}}^{1}\right] d y \\
& =\int_{0}^{1}\left[\left(5(1)^{2}-4 y(1)+5(1)\right)-\left(5\left(y^{2}\right)^{2}-4 y\left(y^{2}\right)+5\left(y^{2}\right)\right)\right] d y \\
& =\int_{0}^{1}\left[(5-4 y+5)-\left(5 y^{4}-4 y^{3}+5 y^{2}\right)\right] d y \\
& =\int_{0}^{1}\left[-5 y^{4}+4 y^{3}-5 y^{2}-4 y+10\right] d y \\
& =\left[-y^{5}+y^{4}-\frac{5 y^{3}}{3}-2 y^{2}+10 y\right]_{0}^{1} \\
& =\left(-(1)^{5}+(1)^{4}-\frac{5(1)^{3}}{3}-2(1)^{2}+10(1)\right)-(0) \\
& =-1+1-\frac{5}{3}-2+10 \\
& =\frac{19}{3} \text { or } 6 \frac{1}{3}
\end{aligned}
$$

The same answer could be found by reversing the order of integration and evaluating the double integral $\iint_{R}(10 x-4 y+5) d y d x$.

Example 4: Reversing the Order of Integration in Example 3.

## Solution:

Firstly sketch the region of integration.


Secondly, find the limits of integration.
The "inner" integration is with respect to $y$, so we draw an arrow across the region of integration, parallel to the $y$-axis (keeping $x$ constant) from bottom to top.

The lower boundary is $y=0$
The upper boundary is $y=\sqrt{x}$.
These are the limits of integration for $y$.
The outer integration is with respect to $x$. The limits of integration are simply the left and right limits of $x$ for the region of integration.

Left limit: $x=0$
Right limit: $x=1$
Therefore the integral becomes, $\int_{0}^{1}\left[\int_{0}^{y=\sqrt{x}}(10 x-4 y+5) d y\right] d x$
Thirdly, integrate with respect to $y$ and then with respect to $x$.
(You can check this yourself and see that you get the same answer, regardless of the order of integration).

## Example 5

Determine the limits of integration for $\iint_{R}(2 x y) d A$ over the region shown below,

by a) integrating with respect to $x$ first and b ) integrating with respect to $y$ first.

Solution a) Integrating with respect to $x$ first.
We draw an arrow parallel to the $x$-axis.


Looking at this arrow, it can be seen that the left limit is $x=$ $-\frac{1}{3}(y-4)$ (this is found by re-arranging the equation $y=-3 x+4$ ) and the right limit is $x=y$.

The $y$-limits are the lower and upper values of $y$. Lower limit, $y=1$ and the upper limit is $y=4$.

Therefore, the integral becomes $\int_{1}^{4}\left[\int_{x=-\frac{1}{3}(y-4)}^{x=y}(2 x y) d x\right] d y$

## Solution b) Integrating with respect to $y$ first.

In this case we need to divide the region in two and draw two lines parallel to the $y$-axis.


The diagram shows that, although the upper limit is always $y=4$, the lower limit changes from $y=-3 x+4$ (between $x=0$ and $x=1$ ), to $y=x$ (from $x=1$ to $x=4$ ).

This gives two double integrals that must be added together to cover the entire region.
$\int_{0}^{1}\left[\int_{y=-3+4}^{y=4}(2 x y) d y\right] d x+\int_{1}^{4}\left[\int_{y=x}^{y=4}(2 x y) d y\right] d x$
In this case it appears that integrating with respect to $x$ first is the easier option.

In fact, sometimes one order may be impossible, but if the order of integration is reversed then the double integral can be evaluated.

## Exercise 2

a) Evaluate the double integral $\int_{0}^{1} \int_{y=x^{2}}^{y=x}\left(x^{3} y\right) d y d x$.
b) Evaluate the double integral $\int_{0}^{2} \int_{y=x^{2}}^{y=4}(3+2 y) d y d x$.
c) Evaluate the double integral $\iint_{R}(4 x y) d A$, where $R$ is the region
bounded by the graphs of $y=x$ and $y=x^{2}-2 x$.
d) Evaluate the double integral $\iint_{R}(2 x+y) d y d x$, where $R$ is the region bounded by the graphs of $y+x=2$ and $y=x^{2}$.

Answers
a) $\frac{1}{48}$
b) $\frac{208}{5}$ or $41 \frac{3}{5}$
c) $\frac{243}{10}$ or $24 \frac{3}{10}$
d) $\frac{27}{10}$

## Exercise 3

a) Evaluate $\int_{0}^{2}\left[\int_{y=0}^{y=x}(2 x+2 y) d y\right] d x$
b) Sketch the region of integration defined in a).
c) Confirm your answer to part a) by evaluating the double integral obtained by reversing the order of integration.

Answers

3a) 8
3b)


## Exercise 4

a) Sketch the region of integration, R , defined by the double integral $\int_{0}^{1}\left[\int_{y=x}^{y=1}\left(2 x \frac{e^{y}}{y^{2}}\right) d y\right] \mathrm{dx}$ b) Reverse the order of integration and hence evaluate.

Answers
4a)


4b) $e-1$

